

Message

From: Mckelvey, Laura [Mckelvey.Laura@epa.gov]
Sent: 12/20/2018 2:41:01 PM
To: Koerber, Mike [Koerber.Mike@epa.gov]; Davis, Alison [Davis.Alison@epa.gov]; Rimer, Kelly [Rimer.Kelly@epa.gov]; Smith, Darcie [Smith.Darcie@epa.gov]; Long, Pam [Long.Pam@epa.gov]; Cortelyou-Lee, Jan [Cortelyou-Lee.Jan@epa.gov]; Terry, Sara [Terry.Sara@epa.gov]; Shappley, Ned [Shappley.Ned@epa.gov]; Weinstock, Lewis [Weinstock.Lewis@epa.gov]; Bremer, Kristen [Bremer.Kristen@epa.gov]; Wilson, Holly [Wilson.Holly@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Inquiry from local School Superintendent (Gower) in Willowbrook, IL

Hi folks,

Michelle and I spoke Dr. Simon is trying to handle a level of panic caused by the indoor measurements that the Villages took. He is looking for some help to provide some context for the parents about the indoor air levels. He would like a conference call to help him frame the discussion and potential talking points. I know some of you have had some discussions with Dave Rosen about the indoor issue but I think it would be helpful to see if we can set up a discussion with Michelle and Dr. Simon to talk through the issue.

Thanks
Laura

From: Colledge, Michelle (ATSDR/DCHI/CB) <mna9@cdc.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2018 9:24 AM
To: Mckelvey, Laura <Mckelvey.Laura@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Inquiry from local School Superintendent (Gower) in Willowbrook, IL

FYI

From: Victor Simon <vsimon@gower62.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 19, 2018 4:10 PM
To: Colledge, Michelle (ATSDR/DCHI/CB) <mna9@cdc.gov>
Subject: Re: Inquiry from local School Superintendent (Gower) in Willowbrook, IL

I'd prefer a conference call if possible. Separately, if you are willing to look at the meteorological data for that day and provide a bit of a conclusion in the context of some of this other 'baseline' data; that would be helpful. I'm seeing the conversation with Laura a bit differently in the sense that 'other people (en masse) could benefit from this background info' and their website seems like an obvious tool for sharing. Somebody, somewhere really needs to advocate for the study done by the 3rd party in Willowbrook to be replicated in an area without an obvious and known producer of EtO. I'm not seeing a village official in some random area raising their hand to invite this issue into their community so that's going to require some encouragement from elsewhere... There appears to be a very clear route to bringing more clarity to this issue. That route also seems to be challenged by findings in Gurnee as well as here. Thanks again for all of your insight; most helpful.

Dr. Victor Simon III
Superintendent of Schools

/
Gower School District 62
7700 Clarendon Hills Rd., Willowbrook, IL 60527
(P) 630-986-5383 www.gower62.com

On Wed, Dec 19, 2018 at 3:57 PM Colledge, Michelle (ATSDR/DCHI/CB) <mna9@cdc.gov> wrote:

Your call. I can contact her tomorrow and chat with her about your concerns if you would like. I can look at the data and see what days you had detects and what the wind directions were those days as we discussed. I can summarize my conversation with her in an email back to you, or I can schedule something with her so we can talk together if you prefer that route.

Michelle A. Colledge MPH, PhD
CAPT, U.S. Public Health Service
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry/NCEH/CDC, Region 5
77 W. Jackson Blvd., Room 413
Mailstop ATSD-4J
Chicago, Illinois 60604

mcolledge@cdc.gov
Tel: 312-886-1462
Fax: 312-886-6066



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From: Victor Simon <vsimon@gower62.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 19, 2018 2:24 PM
To: Colledge, Michelle (ATSDR/DCHI/CB) <mna9@cdc.gov>
Subject: Re: Inquiry from local School Superintendent (Gower) in Willowbrook, IL

Thank you for this information. In context, this is a major finding. I think it is important to get this in front of the folks at EPA and perhaps even ILDPH. Especially EPA though as they are maintaining an informational website.

Would you like to pass this along separately or would you like me to forward... Laura Mckelvey with EPA has been hosting calls, etc. I'm thinking she would be the one to get this info on that site to add to the knowledge base...

On Wed, Dec 19, 2018 at 2:17 PM Colledge, Michelle (ATSDR/DCHI/CB) <mna9@cdc.gov> wrote:

Dr. Simon-

Please see this CICAD from the World Health Organization (<https://www.who.int/ipcs/publications/cicad/en/cicad54.pdf>). Page 9 describes various studies of EtO in outdoor, ambient air. Unfortunately, they noted limited data then (15 years ago) and things haven't changed much. However, they note the "remote" levels of EtO in a non-industrialized part of California as being between 0.029-0.36 ug/m3, which is very similar to concentrations in the schools and removed monitors in the community.

Also, data are very limited info on indoor air (same document as above):

"6.1.2 Indoor air

Ethylene oxide was detected at a concentration of 4 µg/m3 in only 1 of 50 24 -h samples of air collected inside randomly selected residences during a multimedia exposure study conducted in Canada (Health Canada, 1999a). The censored mean value was 0.17 µg/m3 when a concentration equivalent to one-half the limit of detection (i.e., $\frac{1}{2} \times 0.19 \text{ µg/m}^3 = 0.095 \text{ µg/m}^3$) was assumed for the 49 samples in which ethylene oxide was not detected. Ethylene oxide was detected at concentrations of 5 µg/m3 in 3 of 24 personal air samples collected from an occupant of each of the 50 residences (Conor Pacific nvironmental, 1998)."

While this resource doesn't specifically report EtO, there is a supplemental document (at the end, they are mixed up-links don't match the title, but there is one with school indoor air concentrations) that shows that there are many VOCs in schools in Europe and Asia. There are surely some in the U.S. too, but I was specifically looking for EtO (this characterizes hospitals, so it came up in my search). EtO just hasn't been regularly studied.

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11356-017-8567-7>


I'm sorry I can't dig up better information. I'll keep looking and will forward anything else along that I find.

Thx

Michelle

Michelle A. Colledge MPH, PhD
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From: Victor Simon <vsimon@gower62.com>
Sent: Friday, December 14, 2018 12:20 PM
To: Colledge, Michelle (ATSDR/DCHI/CB) <mna9@cdc.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Inquiry from local School Superintendent (Gower) in Willowbrook, IL

Forwarding.

Dr. Victor Simon III

Superintendent of Schools

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Gower School District 62

7700 Clarendon Hills Rd., Willowbrook, IL 60527

(P) 630-986-5383 www.gower62.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Victor Simon** <vsimon@gower62.com>
Date: Fri, Dec 14, 2018 at 12:18 PM
Subject: Re: Inquiry from local School Superintendent (Gower) in Willowbrook, IL
To: Colledge, Michelle <Colledge.Michelle@epa.gov>

Link to our District News site that has the string of updates in which any info that you can find/provide regarding 'background' levels of indoor EtO can be contextualized around... Thanks again for the being available and answering my questions regarding the most recent data collected by GHD.

http://gower62.com/?news_district=community-notice-federal-agency-report-posted-on-village-of-willowbrook-website

Dr. Victor Simon III

Superintendent of Schools

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On Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 7:57 AM Victor Simon <vsimon@gower62.com> wrote:

No need to apologize. Knowing that you are working to get movement on the third recommendation in your report is helpful. I formally requested for schools to be included through the Village office on 8/27 and was assured that this request was sent through the appropriate channels. Regardless if that happened or not, it appears that you are on it which is great to hear.

I am available any time today and can be reached directly at 630-947-5006 and greatly appreciate your attention to this matter.

On Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 7:02 AM Colledge, Michelle <Colledge.Michelle@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Dr. Simon-

I apologize the the delay in responding. We have been following up with EPA to see if and when follow up sampling will be conducted in the community. We have suggested that the schools be included to 1) characterize potential EtO exposures at schools and 2) to ensure the data are collected and analyzed identically to the the other samples in the community. Are there any windows of time today or tomorrow where we could give you a call to discuss?

Best,

Michelle

Michelle A. Colledge MPH, PhD
CAPT, U.S. Public Health Service
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On Sep 4, 2018, at 4:23 PM, Victor Simon <vsimon@gower62.com> wrote:

I have a number of questions. To be respectful of your limited time, they really all boil down to one simple question really: Given the information that Sterigenics has taken steps to further control EtO emissions at the Willowbrook site(s) since the May 2018 testing conducted by ATSDR, and the recommendation "that U.S. EPA work with the Sterigenics facility to initiate long-term air monitoring as soon as possible to measure ambient air levels of EtO.", do you have any additional recommendation(s) regarding the need for any further/separate testing - independent or otherwise - on and/or in each of our two school campuses (both within 1 mile)? Also, per voicemail, I can be reached at 630-947-5006.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Dr. Victor Simon III

Superintendent of Schools

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Gower School District 62

7700 Clarendon Hills Rd., Willowbrook, IL 60527

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@

On Tue, Sep 4, 2018 at 4:04 PM, Colledge, Michelle <Colledge.Michelle@epa.gov> wrote:

Dr. Simon:

My regional director, Mark Johnson, and I just tried to call your office, but it went to voicemail. Could you please respond with your questions via email so we can make sure we can answer them when we talk over the phone? I have extremely limited availability tomorrow, but we might be able to get you some answers by tomorrow or Thursday.

Thank you,

Michelle

<image002.png>

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From: Victor Simon [<mailto:vsimon@gower62.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 4, 2018 1:44 PM
To: Colledge, Michelle <Colledge.Michelle@epa.gov>
Subject: Inquiry from local School Superintendent (Gower) in Willowbrook, IL

Dr. Colledge, I left a voicemail for your moments ago and hopeful that we can connect in the next 24 hours. I have a handful of specific questions related to EtO testing; specifically indoor air testing given our proximity to Sterigenics in Willowbrook. I have been engaged with local officials since this issue was made known and it would be helpful to me and our school community to follow up with you - as a direct source of related information.

Thank you in advance.

CAPT Michelle Colledge, Ph.D., MPH
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Dr. Victor Simon III

Superintendent of Schools

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Sent via cell phone

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